

**REMARKS**

- Claims 26, 27, 29-34 and 38-42 are presently pending in the application.

Claims 26 and 27 have been rewritten to depend from allowable claim 29; claims 32 and 34 have been rewritten to depend from allowable claim 30; and claim 33 has been written to depend from allowable claim 31. New claim 38 is a combination of the features in original claims 1, 2 and 9; claim 39 includes the feature of original 3; claim 40 includes the feature of original claim 5; claim 41 includes the features of original claims 12, 13 (or 7) and 10; and claim 42 includes the features of original claims 12, 14 (or 8) and 9. Accordingly, no new matter has been added by these amendments.

The Examiner has rejected claims 26-28 and 32-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,190,557 of Hisada et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,376,278 of Salem and U.S. Patent 4,906,372 of Hopkins. While not necessarily agreeing with the Examiner's rejection or the arguments in support thereof, this rejection is now moot in view of the above amendments. Thus, the Examiner has allowed claims 29-31, and each of the claims 26, 27 and 32-34 has been amended to depend from one of these allowed claims. The remaining rejected claims 28 and 35-37 have been cancelled. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection with respect to claims 26, 27 and 32-34 are respectfully requested.

In addition, new independent claims 38 and 42 are believed to be allowable, since they include the same allowable features as allowable claim 31. Claims 39 and 40, which depend from claim 38, would be allowable for the same reason. In addition, independent claim 41 is

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believed to be allowable, since it includes the same allowable features as those of allowable claim 30. Entry and allowance of these new claims are also respectfully requested.

In view of the above Amendment and Remarks, it is submitted that all of the claims in the application are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

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